# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1360
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2016
Centre for Science of Happiness
Gaikwad Dr. Sunil Baliram;Gupta Shri Sudheer;Kirtikar Shri Gajanan Chandrakant;Mahato Shri Bidyut Baran;Radhakrishnan Shri T.;S.R. Shri Vijay Kumar;Singh Shri Kunwar Haribansh

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is aware that Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur has any proposal for setting up of a 'centre for science of happiness'; which would not only help students embrace more happiness but also seek to further research in the field;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the proposed "Rekhi Centre for Science of Happiness" would offer a certificate course on happiness and positive psychology; and
(d) if so, the details and the objectives for setting up of the said centre along with the funding required and the time by which it is likely be set up?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)

(a) & (b): IIT Kharagpur have reported that a proposal on 'centre for science of happiness' has been received from its alumnus, Shri Satinder Singh Rekhi and the vision of the Centre is to promote the science and practice of positivity for fostering meaningful life, happiness, wellbeing and holistic self-development by bringing together various related disciplines ranging from psychology, cognitive sciences, neurosciences, management, educational technology, electrical engineering, signal processing and measurement, etc. A team of faculty members identified from a number of different disciplines by the Institute has been entrusted with developing its (i) courses, (ii) proposed research, (iii) training programs and (iv) student and community related activities.
(c): IIT Kharagpur have informed that the Centre proposes to have some courses for the UG and PG students of the Institute. It will also offer training programs and certificate courses either in campus or outside as per norms.
(d): The Objectives of the Centre indicated by IIT-Kharagpur are: (i) to develop academic programs, training and outreach activities in the concerned areas; (ii) to carry out state-of-the-art scientific research on happiness, positive psychology and their various components; (iii) to develop Industry-Institute interaction for research, product development, and training; (iv) to reach out to the students and to inculcate a culture of service for humanity among the students of IIT through diverse formal and informal activities and programs. Shri Rekhi has agreed to set up a seed endowment fund and has transferred an initial amount of Rs 60 lakhs to plan the Centre. Detailed funding requirements will be known after the detailed plan is made by the Institute.
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